



USDA Forest Service Fire and Aviation Management Briefing Paper



Date: Thursday, December 8, 2005
Time: 10:00 am

Topic: USDA Forest Service Non-Fire Emergency Management
Issue: Interagency Hurricane Support

Background: Interagency hurricane relief efforts are directed in response to Katrina (August 29), Rita (September 24) and Wilma (October 24) which collectively impacted coastal areas from east Texas to the Florida panhandle, plus south Florida from the Gulf to the Atlantic.

Resources Committed	Mission	Location
Regional Office – R8 - Louisiana	Incident Coordination	Atlanta, GA
Incident Management Team (T2) Adams	Fire Response, Planning	Hammond, LA
Incident Management Team (T1) Martin	Planning Assistance	Cameron, LA
Incident Management Team (T3) Ricci	Forestry Assistance	DeRidder, LA
Incident Management Team (T2) Contractor	Base Camp	Gulfport, MS

Highlights

Four Incident Management Teams (IMT), one camp crew, 29 law enforcement officers and aircraft and equipment operators are committed to the hurricane effort, for a total of approximately 570 personnel on the incidents. 70 percent are federal personnel and 30 percent are state and other personnel.

A private contract IDIQ team (Indefinite Duration – Indefinite Quantity) has assumed command of support operations from Carlson's interagency Type 2 IMT at the Gulfport, MS base camp.

IMT Martin (T1) provides planning assistance to local authorities in Cameron, LA in cooperation with FEMA, Coast Guard, USGS, and Army Corps of Engineers. Corps assessment teams are surveying damage in preparation for demolition and debris removal from private property. The team is working with partners on a long range plan for recovery and reoccupation in Cameron Parish. This is the only type 1 team on the incidents.

IMT Adams (T2) provides a range of proactive fire training and prevention programs to local fire service agencies and the public in Hammond, LA. They have now responded to 254 fires totaling 1,700 acres with 331 residences, 21 outbuildings and 2 commercial buildings directly threatened. Two additional miles of presuppression lines have been constructed for a total of 47 miles with 330 structures protected.

IMT Ricci (T3) provides forestry management assistance to the state in DeRidder, LA. Timber damage estimates range up to 90% over a six-parish area in southwest Louisiana. Fire potential has moderated after recent rains. Construction of presuppression fire lines in Starks and Fields is underway.

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